

**Statement on Signing the
Agriculture, Rural Development,
Food and Drug Administration, and
Related Agencies Appropriations
Act, 2002**

November 28, 2001

Today I have signed into law H.R. 2330, the "Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2002."

I appreciate the bipartisan effort that has gone into producing this Act. The Act abides by the agreed upon aggregate funding level for Fiscal Year 2002 of \$686 billion. It provides for several important programs with significant national benefits by:

- fully funding the current participation rate for the key nutrition program for women, infants, and children;
- supporting Department of Agriculture (USDA) food safety activities, including providing 7,600 meat and poultry inspectors; and
- redirecting USDA research to provide new emphasis in key areas such as biotechnology, the development of new agricultural products, and improved protection against emerging exotic plant and animal diseases, as well as crop and animal pests.

A number of provisions contained in the bill purport to restrict executive branch execution of programs that are funded in the bill. Where such provisions contradict the Supreme Court ruling in *INS v. Chadha*, their intent will be interpreted as advisory only.

I appreciate that the Congress has worked expeditiously during this difficult and trying time in our Nation's history to consider the FY 2002 appropriations bills. Through a renewed sense of bipartisanship, the Congress and my Administration must work together to ensure the timely enactment of the remaining bills.

George W. Bush

The White House,
November 28, 2001.

NOTE: H.R. 2330, approved November 28, was assigned Public Law No. 107-76.

**Statement on Signing the
Departments of Commerce, Justice,
and State, the Judiciary, and Related
Agencies Appropriations Act, 2002**

November 28, 2001

Today I have signed into law H.R. 2500, the "Department of Commerce, Justice, State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2002."

I appreciate the bipartisan effort that has gone into producing this Act. The bill abides by the agreed upon aggregate funding level for Fiscal Year 2002 of \$686 billion and supports several of my Administration's key initiatives including:

- \$100 million to support a backlog elimination initiative to achieve a universal 6-month processing standard for all immigration applications;
- 570 additional Immigration and Naturalization Service agents to protect our Northern and Southern borders;
- \$50 million grant program in the Office of Justice Programs to aid counties along the Southwestern border with their costs of detaining and prosecuting drug cases referred to them by Federal law enforcement agents;
- \$50 million for drug courts, which provide a supervised treatment alternative to prison sentences for non-violent drug possession offenders, to enable Federal assistance to over 120 new or existing drug court programs. To date, over 57,000 offenders have completed drug court programs, and their recidivism rate is much lower than that of comparable offenders;
- \$15 million for grants to create community-based task forces for reducing youth violence and to assist State and local prosecution of firearms offenses, and \$9 million for the U.S. Attorneys to hire dedicated prosecutors who will appropriately prosecute juvenile gun offenders and those who supply them with guns;
- \$20 million to assist State and local law enforcement agencies with the costs associated with methamphetamine laboratory clean-up; and